



DONALD L. WOLFE
CHAIRMAN

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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May 5, 2005

Ms. Rosario Marin, Chair
California Integrated Waste Management Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812-4025

Dear Chairperson Marin:

**CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE
SUPPORT FOR MARCH 15, 2005, VERSION**

Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force would like to extend our appreciation to the California Integrated Waste Management Board's recent efforts regarding the analysis and development of conversion technologies in California.

The Waste Board's guidance and responsiveness was crucial to the development of the *Conversion Technology Report to the Legislature*, a culmination of \$1.5 million dollars in research and study, as adopted on March 15, 2005. The Report, prepared by the Universities of California at Davis and Riverside, your Board, and other nonpartisan organizations, objectively concluded that conversion technologies can result in substantial environmental benefits for California. This three-year effort created an accurate assessment of the current state of these technologies, and impartially determined the best course of action regarding future study and development.

The Task Force believes the Report as approved on March 15, being itself a summary of the Waste Board's two technical, peer-reviewed conversion technology studies (*the Evaluation of Conversion Technology Processes and Products and the Life Cycle and Market Impact Assessment of Waste Conversion Technologies*), was accurately represented by Waste Board Resolution 2005-78. The Report helped place conversion technology in proper perspective, gave public policy and decision makers the

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information and data they needed to make informed decisions, and recommended a number of sound and impartial improvements that would allow the Legislature and other decision makers to consider these technologies on a level playing field based on the merits of their relative benefits and impacts.

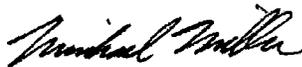
The Task Force was disillusioned to learn that your Board voted to rescind Resolution 2005-78 and purge significant portions of the Report. Although we appreciate the Waste Board's openness to constituent feedback, we believe stakeholders should be afforded equal and non-partial treatment, which did not seem to be the case when this Report was being reconsidered at the April 19, 2005, Waste Board meeting. The Task Force has been an advocate for protecting the Waste Board's independence as witnessed by our opposition to the California Performance Review recommendation to eliminate the Waste Board. The Waste Board has had a track record of operating in a transparent and inclusive manner that safeguards the public's interest and we are concerned that this action strays from that record.

We strongly urge the Waste Board to retain all of the information contained in the March 15 version of the Report, as well as the recommendations included in Resolution 2005-78, and continue to earnestly assist and support the development of these important technologies within our State. If the Waste Board chooses to approve a revised Report at a future meeting, we strongly request that the information and recommendations removed from the Report and Resolution 2005-78 are retained in their entirety and adopted via a resolution concurrent with adoption of the revised Report. Further more, they should be made publicly available, as stakeholders throughout California must be able to rely on the Waste Board as an expert source of comprehensive and impartial solid waste-related information.

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We thank you for your consideration of this request and look forward to working with you and other Waste Board members and staff towards a new paradigm for solid waste management. This is in keeping with the Waste Board's role as a national leader in establishing a zero-waste goal. Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,



Michael Miller, Vice-Chair
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force and
Councilmember, City of West Covina

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cc: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
Cabinet Secretary (Terry Tamminen)
Secretary of California Environmental Protection Agency (Alan C. Lloyd)
Secretary of California Department of Food and Agriculture (A.G. Kawamura)
Chair of California Energy Commission (Joe Desmond)
Secretary of Resources (Mike Chrisman)
Each Member of the California Integrated Waste Management Board
Mr. Mark Leary, Executive Director, California Integrated Waste Management Board
Senate President Pro-Tem (Don Perata)
Speaker of the Assembly (Fabian Nunez)
Each Member of the County of Los Angeles Legislative Delegation
Each Member of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
Each City Mayor in the County of Los Angeles
California State Association of Counties
League of California Cities
League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Solid Waste Association of North America
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force
Each Member of the Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee
Each City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County